

Wetland Restoration Efforts Paying Off

The Straight River Marsh Project in southern Steele County Minnesota, is a wetland restoration effort primarily funded through the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) and partnered with Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM). There are presently 22 easements enrolled, totaling over 1200 acres. As seen in these pictures taken on

March 28 by Noel Frank and Jessica Jovaag with the Steele County NRCS, some of the completed restorations are already playing host to a large number of migratory waterfowl. This is much needed habitat in a county primarily consisting of corn and soybeans. Along with the wetland restoration



component, associated uplands are seeded to a native prairie mix containing a wide variety of forbs. This spring, work will begin on several newly recorded easements. It is expected that the project will continue to expand each year as more landowners become involved.



Straight River Marsh Brochure

<http://www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov/ecs/wrp/straightriver.pdf>

Wetland Reserve Program

<http://www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov/ecs/wrp/wrp.html>

Reinvest In Minnesota Program

<http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/programs/major/rim.html>